

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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RICHARD WILLIAM MARTIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

C/W HANNAH et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:16-cv-00261-MMD-VPC

ORDER

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a former state prisoner. On May 24, 2016, this Court issued an order denying the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for prisoners as moot and directed Plaintiff to file a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee of \$400.00 within thirty (30) days from the date of that order. (ECF No. 3 at 1-2). The thirty-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners, paid the full filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir.

1 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint);  
2 *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply  
3 with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v.*  
4 *U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply  
5 with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal  
6 for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

7 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to  
8 obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several  
9 factors: (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need  
10 to manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy  
11 favoring disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic  
12 alternatives. *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*,  
13 833 F.2d at 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

14 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in  
15 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,  
16 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs  
17 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of  
18 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action.  
19 See *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor — public  
20 policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits — is greatly outweighed by the  
21 factors in favor of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that  
22 his failure to obey the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of  
23 alternatives" requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33;  
24 *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an application  
25 to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee within thirty (30)  
26 days expressly stated: "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Plaintiff does not timely  
27 comply with this order, dismissal of this action may result." (ECF No. 3 at 2.) Thus,  
28 Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with

1 the Court's order to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or  
2 pay the full filing fee within thirty (30) days.

3 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed without prejudice based on  
4 Plaintiff's failure to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or  
5 pay the full filing fee in compliance with this Court's May 24, 2016, order.

6 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court enter judgment accordingly.

7 DATED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Miranda M. Du', is written over a horizontal line.

MIRANDA M. DU  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE